REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-20 are present in this application. Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), claims 1-5, 10, 14, 18 and 19 are rejected over JP 2002-003091 (Uetake et al.) in view of U.S. 4,629,035 (Tanahashi et al.) and claims 15-17 and 20 are rejected over Uetake et al. in view of Tanahashi et al. and further in view of U.S. 4,658,935 (Holland). Claims 6-9 and 11-13 are withdrawn from consideration.

The elevator controller according to claim 1 includes a main control unit for controlling the operation of an elevator. The control unit calculates a continuous future predicted temperature state of a predetermined component of the elevator, compares the predicted temperature state to a range of permitted temperature states, and reduces or increases at least one of a plurality of elevator travel parameters if the predicted temperature state exceeds a maximum of the range or is below a minimum of the range, respectively.

As discussed in the previous response, Tanahashi et al. describes a speed control apparatus for an elevator, and Uetake et al. discloses an elevator controller where the temperature state is detected and if the temperature exceeds a threshold, a running pattern may be changed. However, Tanahashi et al. calculates a predicted current temperature state, and Uetake et al. controls an elevator on the basis of the current temperature of the current changing ratio of temperature. On the other hand, in the controller of claim 1, a predicted continuous temperature state of the equipment is calculated after the equipment is driven until a future time, and an elevator is controlled based on the predicted continuous future temperature state. The control is performed based upon the predicted continuous future temperature state such that the temperature of the equipment does not exceed its permitted range. High running efficiency can be achieved. Such a controller is not described in the Tanahashi et al. and Uetake et al.

Claim 18 recites calculating a continuous predicted future temperature state of the component of the drive system, comparing the predicted temperature state to a range of permitted temperature states, and controlling the component of the drive system based upon the results of the comparison. As discussed above, both Tanahashi et al. and Uetake et al. operate on the basis of current temperature states, and not a continuous future temperature predicted state. Claim 18 is also patentable over Tanahashi et al. and Uetake et al.

Holland is cited for disclosing a selector system which determines a plurality of sets of elevator travel parameters and selects travel parameters based upon a comparison of one of the parameters in the sets. However, even if such teachings could be combined with Uetake et al. and Tanahashi et al., the combination would still be deficient for the reasons described above. Namely, none of the references discloses calculating a continuous future predicted temperature state of a predetermined component or comparing a continuous future predicted temperature state to a range of permitted temperature states. Claims 1 and 18 are also patentable over a combination of Uetake et al., Tanahashi et al. and Holland.

It is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and a favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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